(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. There has been an increase in the number of such industries during the last three years and this could be attributed to among other reasons, increased industrialisation in the State.

(d) Setting up of such industries are regulated under various provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act and other laws in force.

Installation of Anti-pollution equipments by Companies

624. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform code at National and State level for installation of anti-pollution equipments by the existing and newly coming up industries;

(b) whether there is any time bound programme for installation of such devices and or to shift or close down such industries; and

(c) if so how Government ensure deviation or arbitrary functioning of State Pollution Control Boards in ordering closure of industries or shifting the industries without considering the impact on the closure of industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 are the uniform codes at National and State levels which provide norms to the industries to meet the prescribed standards.

State Pollution Control Boards issue consent to operate industries after ensuring that they have provided adequate pollution control equipments to comply with the prescribed standards. The Central Government have issued a notification according to which the industries set up on or before May 16, 1981 are required to comply with the pollution control standards by December 31, 1993. The industries set up after May 16, 1981 were required to comply with the standards by December 31, 1992. The State Pollution Control Boards have been asked to ensure that all the industries comply with the prescribed standards within the given time frame.

(c) The Central Government is reviewing from time to time the status of compliance by the polluting units and the action taken against the defaulting units ly the State Pollution Control Boards. The Government have not received any representation regarding deviations or arbitrary functioning of State Pollution Control Boards by ordering closure of industries. However, as per the notification issued by the Government on 16th January, 1991, the Central Board or State Board, depending upon the local conditions or nature of discharge of pollutants may, by order, specify a lesser period. within which compliance of standards shall be met by an industry.

Setting up of pollution control devices

625. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Wi the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Heavy Polluting Industries such as Thermal, Iron and Steel, Fertilizer Units etc. have shown their inability to set up pollution control devices;

(b) if so, whether Government have issued directions to the concerned Ministries that stern action shall be taken against those who have not installed pollution control devices; and

(c) if so, to what extent these industries have agreed to set up such devices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The progress of compliance with the prescribed standards by the heavily polluting industries such as Thermal Power Plants, Iron and Steel, Fertilizer units etc., has been recently reviewed

with the industries and also with the concerned Central Ministries. Some of the units have expressed difficulties for compliance of the standards within the stipulated time, i.e. December 31st, 1993. However, all the concerned Central Ministries and the industrial units have been told that in the event of default in compliance, strict action would have to be taken. The representatives of the Central Ministries have stated that they will take all possible steps to comply with the standards within the stipulated time.

Polluting conditions in Delhi

626. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the steps being taken to improve the deteriorating polluting conditions in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): The steps taken to improve the deteriorating polluting conditions in Delhi include the following:

(i) Standards for discharge of effluents and emissions from major categories of polluting industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(ii) The major air and water polluting industries in Delhi have been identified.

(iii) Industries are to comply with the standards laid by installation of pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(iv) A network of water quality monitoring stations have been set up to monitor the water quality of the River Yamuna at various points of effluent discharge and ambient air quality monitoring stations in areas with high industrial and traffic density.

(v) A number of schemes for construction/augmentation of sewerage and sewage treatment plants for treatment of domestic wastes are under implementation.

(vi) Combined Effluent Treatment Plant (CETPs) for treating effluents from clusters of water polluting industries has been taken up.

(vii) All the three thermal power plans have installed electrostatic precipitators for control of emissions.

(viii) For control of vehicular pollution, gross and mass emission standards have been notified under the Motor vehicles Rules, 1989.

(ix) The Delhi Administration is implementing a comprehensive action plan to reduce pollution and control smoke emission from its buses. This action plan consist of:

(a) Reducing smoke emission by tuning vehicles/engines. Of the 3627 vehicles checked 3624 vehicles have already been cleared/rectified to adhere to the prescribed norms.

(b) Acquiring buses for replacement of over-aged buses from the active fleet 500 such buses have already been phased out.

(c) Reducing over-loading.

(d) Equipping the test units with smoke meters for monitoring the smoke levels of the fleet held at the units. Vehicles are being checked at a periodicity of six months.

(e) Prosecutions are launched against defaulters. From April 1992 to June 1993, a total of 8988 buses operating under State Transport Authority were checked and owners of 3046 buses were prosecuted.

Global forum on environment education

627. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Global Forum on Environmental Education for sustainable developments organised a workshop on experiences in Environmental Educations, in New Delhi on 27th Sep-